

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A bactericidal composition comprising as effective ingredients (a) at least one substance selected from the group consisting of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid and a metal ~~salts~~ salt thereof, wherein said metal salt is a sodium salt and (b) at least one ~~substance~~ thionin selected from the group consisting of an alpha-type thionin and a beta-type thionin.

Claim 2. (canceled)

Claim 3. (currently amended) The bactericidal composition according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the content of said (a) at least one substance selected from the group consisting of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid and a metal ~~salts~~ salt thereof is 0.05 mM or more and less than 1.5 mM and the content of said (b)

at least one ~~substance~~ thionin selected from the group consisting of an alpha-type thionin and a beta-type thionin is 1 µg/mL or more and 150 µg/mL or less.

**Claim 4. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 1. wherein said (a) consists essentially of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid.

**Claim 5. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 1, wherein said (a) consists essentially of a sodium salt of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid.

**Claim 6. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 1, wherein the thionin is an alpha-type thionin.

**Claim 7. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 1, wherein the thionin is a beta-type thionin.

**Claim 8. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 1, wherein said (a) is the sodium salt of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid and said sodium salt is a

disodium salt or a tetrasodium salt.

**Claim 9. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 3, wherein said (a) consists essentially of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid.

**Claim 10. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 3, wherein said (a) consists essentially of a sodium salt of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid.

**Claim 11. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 3, wherein the thionin is an alpha-type thionin.

**Claim 12. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 3, wherein the thionin is a beta-type thionin.

**Claim 13. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 3, wherein said (a) is the sodium salt of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid and said sodium salt is a disodium salt or a tetrasodium salt.

**Claim 14. (new)** A method of sterilizing a bacteria selected from the group consisting of a food poisoning bacteria, a cariogenic bacteria and a periodontal bacteria in a food comprising adding an effective bactericidal amount of the bactericidal composition according to claim 1 to a food.

**Claim 15. (new)** The method according to claim 14, wherein the bacteria is a food poisoning bacteria and is *V. parahaemolyticus*; the at least one metal salt is in an amount of 0.1 to 0.5 mM; and the at least one thionin is in an amount of 2 to 100 µg/mL.

**Claim 16. (new)** The method according to claim 14, wherein the bacteria is a food poisoning bacteria and is a *Salmonella* species; the at least one metal salt is in an amount of 0.1 to 1.49 mM; and the at least one thionin is in an amount of 2 to 100 µg/mL.

**Claim 17. (new)** The method according to claim 14, wherein the bacteria is a food poisoning bacteria and is *Escherichia*

*coli*; the at least one metal salt is in an amount of 0.5 to 1.49 mM; and the at least one thionin is in an amount of 10 to 100 µg/mL.

**Claim 18. (new)** The method according to claim 14, wherein the bacteria is selected from the group consisting of *V. parahaemolyticus*, *Salmonella typhimurium*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Escherichia coli* 01:K:H7, *Escherichia coli* 06, *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* and *Bacillus cereus*.

**Claim 19. (new)** The method according to claim 14, wherein the bacteria is a food poisoning bacteria and wherein the content of said (a) at least one substance selected from the group consisting of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid and a metal salt thereof is 0.05 mM or more and less than 1.5 mM and the content of said (b) at least one thionin selected from the group consisting of an alpha-type thionin and a beta-type thionin is 1 µg/mL or more and 150 µg/mL or less.

**Claim 20. (new)** A food in combination with an effective bactericidal amount of the bactericidal composition according to claim 1 to sterilize food poisoning bacteria, cariogenic bacteria or periodontal bacteria in said food.

**Claim 21. (new)** The food in combination with the bactericidal composition according to claim 20, wherein the at least one metal salt is in an amount of 0.05 mM or more and less than 1.5 mM, and the at least one thionin is in an amount of 1 µg/mL or more and 150 µg/m or less.

**Claim 22. (new)** The bactericidal composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition consists essentially of bactericidal effective amounts of said (a) and said (b).